

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of short-comings in the income-tax laws with respect to the assessment of small scale industrial undertakings pointed out by the Comptroller & Auditor General are as under:

In the absence of any provision in the Income-Tax Act to the effect that a unit should be registered with Director of Industries for claiming the concessions under the Act, and suitable provisions requiring District Industries Centres to send particulars of Small Scale Industrial Units registered with them to Tax authorities, it was not possible to bring all profit-making units to tax bracket. Besides, the large number of provisions and concessions obtaining in the statute book were mostly unavailable to the units, since most of them had limited profitability or none at all.

287 (c) The matter is under consideration.

Pension Scheme for L.I.C. Employees

6018. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) is actively considering the introduction of 'Pension Schemes' for its employees;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be introduced;

(c) whether the 'Pension Scheme' will also be applicable to the retired L.I.C employees, irrespective of their age of retirement if they opt for it; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a). No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) The employees of the Life Insurance corporation of India are getting Gratuity and matching contribution of Provident Fund as retirement benefits. It is not considered feasible to give pension as a third retirement benefit.

Opening of New Bank Branches in Hill Districts of Uttar Pradesh

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6019. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer the reply given to unstarred question no.753 on July26, 1991 and state:

(a) the locations for which licences for opening new branches of banks in hill districts of Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal and Uttarkashi are pending with banks, bank-wise;

(b) the date on which the Reserve Bank of India issued these licences; and

(c) the norms laid down by the Reserve Bank of India for issuing licences to banks for opening their branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Bank-wise pending licences for opening new branches in hill districts of Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal and Uttar-Kashi are given below:-